

## Message Text

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17

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 IO-14 OMB-01 NSCE-00 SAJ-01 EUR-25 DRC-01

/131 W

----- 117422

R 050855Z MAR 74

FM USLO PEKING

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1459

INFO AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

CINCPAC

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, CH

SUBJECT: NCNA VERSION OF ATTACK ON NEW OPERA

REF: HONG KONG 2321

1. NCNA ENGLISH MARCH 3 CARRIES A SUMMARY OF THE  
FEBRUARY 28 PEOPLE'S DAILY ARTICLE ATTACKING THE NEW  
SHANSI OPERA, "THRICE ASCENDING PEACH MOUNTAIN" (REFTEL).  
THE NCNA VERSION IS SIGNIFICANT FOR ITS OMISSION FROM THE  
SUMMARY OF THE MOST OMINOUS PASSAGES FROM THE ORIGINAL  
ARTICLE. FOR EXAMPLE, THE CHARGE THAT THE OPERA  
"HAS BEEN CAREFULLY WRITTEN BY SOME PEOPLE AND APPROVED AND  
SUPPORTED BY OTHERS" IS OMITTED. SIMILARLY, PASSAGES NEAR  
THE END OF THE ARTICLE CHARGING THAT THE OPERA AIDS AND  
ABETS "THE REACTIONARY TIDE OF ANTI-CHINA, ANTI-COMMUNIST  
AND ANTI-REVOLUTIONARY INTERNATIONAL CLASS ENEMIES"

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AND ANOTHER REFERENCE TO CLASS ENEMIES "WITHIN AND

WITHOUT CHINA" WERE DELETED.

2. PERHAPS MOST STRIKING WAS OMISSION OF MAO QUOTATION IN LAST PARAGRAPH STATING "DON'T THINK THAT AFTER ONE OR TWO OR THREE OR FOUR CULTURAL REVOLUTIONS THINGS CAN BE PEACEFUL AND TRANQUIL. ABOVE ALL PAY ATTENTION, WE MUST NOT LOSE OUR VIGILANCE." FINALLY, THERE IS NO REFERENCE TO THE ARTICLE'S ADMONITION TO "CAREFULLY PAY ATTENTION TO NEW TRENDS AND NEW SPECIAL FEATURES IN THE CLASS STRUGGLE ON THE IDEOLOGICAL AND CULTURAL FRONT."

3. COMMENT: GIVEN RECENT INDICATIONS OF CHINESE SENSITIVITY OVER WESTERN PRESS SPECULATION CONCERNING A BURGEONING POWER STRUGGLE, IT APPEARS THAT SOMEONE DECIDED THAT THE MOST HAIR-RAISING PASSAGES OF THE ATTACK ON "THRICE ASCENDING PEACH MOUNTAIN" SHOULD BE EXCISED FROM THE INTERNATIONAL NCNA VERSION.  
JENKINS

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, CULTURAL PRESENTATIONS, PUBLIC ATTITUDES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 05 MAR 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** morefirh  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**From:** PEKING  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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